

Appl. No. 09/974,970  
Amdt. dated 01/14/2005  
Reply to Office Action of 10/18/2004

**REMARKS**

The Examiner is thanked for the telephone interview of January 14, 2005. Claims 1 - 24 are pending in the present Application. In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 1, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19 and 23 due to some informalities. Further, the Examiner rejected Claims 5, 11, 17 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 13, 14, 19 and 20 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bauersfeld et al. Claims 1 - 4, 6 - 10, 12 - 16 and 17 - 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bates et al. Claims 5, 11, 17 and 23 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the 112 rejections made thereto and to include all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment, Claims 1 - 3, 5 - 9, 11 - 15, 17 - 21, 23 and 24 were amended to overcome the 102 rejections as well as to better claim Applicants' invention. In so doing, Applicants have traversed the substantive (i.e., 102) rejections as well as the technical objections made thereto. Claims 4, 10, 16 and 22 are canceled and new Claims 25 - 28 are added for consideration. Further, the allowable claims have been re-drafted and presented in independent form as new Claims 29 - 32.

For the reasons stated more fully below, Applicants submit that the present claims in the Application are  
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allowable over the applied references. Hence, reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

As stated in the SPECIFICATION, when a user accesses a Web page that may later be re-visited, the user may bookmark the page. There may be instances, however, when it may be convenient to bookmark not only a Web page but also a path that led to the Web page. For example, suppose that through links from a series of displayed Web pages, the user arrived at the Web page that will ultimately be bookmarked. Suppose further that while at the page to be bookmarked, it occurs to the user that the previously displayed pages, from which the page to be bookmarked emanates, contain information relevant enough to warrant a re-visitation at a later date. Then the user may want to bookmark these pages also. The present invention allows a user to bookmark all these Web pages at once.

In accordance with the teachings of the invention, when a user wants to bookmark a presently displayed Web page, the user is prompted to indicate whether the path through which the Web page to be bookmarked emanates is to be also bookmarked. If the user so indicates, the path will also be bookmarked. Otherwise, only the presently displayed Web page will be bookmarked.

Thus, the present invention obviates the time it would normally take a user to access and bookmark each Web page in the path. Obviously, the time saved can be quite significant when and if the number of Web pages in the path is large.

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The invention is set forth in claims of varying scopes of which Claim 1 is illustrative.

1. A method of bookmarking a path to a web page, said path including Uniform Resource Locator (URL) of one or a plurality of Web pages accessed in succession and through which a presently displayed Web page emanated, said method comprising the steps of:

***prompting a user, upon an indication that the presently displayed Web page is to be bookmarked, to indicate whether the path is to be bookmarked; and***

bookmarking the path if the user so indicates. (Emphasis added.)

Applicants believe that the claims as presently amended overcome the 102 rejections made thereto.

Bauersfeld et al. purport to teach a browsing session recording playback and editing system for generating user defined paths and allowing users to mark the priority of items in the paths. According to the teachings of Bauersfeld et al., a session navigation and recording system for a computer environment automatically records every web page that a user visits during a session, thus preserving the context of a path. The recordation of each path is placed in a file. When the user needs to view or rather go through a previously recorded path, the user needs only load the file in which the path was placed into memory. Then the user may paly the recording of the path by clicking on FORWARD and BACKWARD buttons.

However, Bauersfeld et al. do not teach, show or suggest ***prompting a user, upon an indication that a***

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***presently displayed Web page is to be bookmarked, to indicate whether the path is to be bookmarked*** as presently claimed.

Bates et al., on the other hand, teach a method of determining whether a second hypertext document is included in a list of active document trails. In accordance with the teachings of Bates et al., a pre-requisite to determining whether a second hypertext document is included in a list of active document trails is to create a document trail. To create a document trail, the user has to first identify a Web page that has already been bookmarked (i.e., a bookmarked Web page in the bookmark folder) and that the user has accessed. Then, any Web page that was accessed between the time the bookmarked Web page was accessed and the time the currently displayed Web page was accessed becomes part of the document trail. Anytime thereafter that a document is displayed that contains a link to a second document, if the second document is part of the created document trail, the link to the second document will be displayed in a manner that will alert the user that it is part of the document trail.

But as in the case of Bauersfeld et al., Bates et al. do not teach, show or suggest ***prompting a user, upon an indication that a presently displayed Web page is to be bookmarked, to indicate whether the path is to be bookmarked*** as presently claimed.

Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 1 and its dependent claims should be allowable. Independent Claims 7, 13 and 19, and their dependent claims, which all incorporate the above-emboldened-italicized limitations  
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shown in the reproduced Claim 1 above, should be allowable as well. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue are once more respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gentry et al.

By: 

Volel Emile  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No 39,969  
(512) 306-7969

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